

August 15, 2013

Good morning and Welcome to Delta County and the Central Upper Peninsula!

I am Marilyn Kinsey. Secretary of the Board of the Delta County Economic Development Alliance. I am addressing you today on behalf of our Board Chairman, Tom Butch who is unable to be here this morning.

Our Central Upper Peninsula area is too urban to be called rural, but too rural to be called urban, with:

- A total combined population of about 110,000
- Approximately 33 key manufacturers and major employers who employ over 15,000, and
- A diverse multi-modal transportation system in place

We thank you for holding this legislative hearing in Escanaba today, to address the need and opportunity to increase the Central Upper Peninsula's activity in manufacturing, distribution, and transporting products and raw material supplies

I have attached a copy of the official Resolution of Support by the Delta County Economic Development Alliance and Delta County Chamber of Commerce for bi-partisan legislation to amend the Next Michigan Development Act, Public Act 275 of 2010, for the purpose of bringing one of the state's most powerful economic development incentives to this Central Upper Peninsula region.

Thank you.